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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

We are a retired couple living on a fixed income. We have chosen a local Internet provider for their excellent pricing and service. We understand that AT&T and their trade association, US Telecom, have recently petitioned the FCC to take away access to critical unbundled network elements. These unbundled elements are critical last-mile copper and inter-city fiber; the very technology that allows local Internet Providers (So important to the middle and lower income people as well as to those in rural areas.) to grow, expand fiber deployment and compete with the Internet giants.

Without local Internet providers competition, the huge corporations will have no incentive to keep their prices reasonable and will continue to "grow" on the backs of the middle-income population driving smaller companies out of business, not allowing them to provide us with high speed and consistent service.

Our local provider has provided us with competitively priced telephone service and a good DSL line but they are in the process of expanding their fiber service. We have been waiting patiently for their expansion to reach us. If this critical "unbundled network element" is taken away, we may never get, or be able to afford the high-speed Internet that many businesses and corporations and wealthy neighborhoods enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration of our appeal.

John Conway